



JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year, my friends,

I am excited about 2024 and all that it will bring. There will be new stories and new storytellers and new opportunities to share the stories.

2023 was phenomenal for MO-TELL. We brought storytellers to Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites. Four online concerts were produced. Kick off for Tellabration included a concert with Bil Lepp and our in person Tellabration concert included some great tellers in the St. Louis area. There was a liars contest, an auction and a quilt raffle. We produced a monthly newsletter to keep you all informed.

Come to our annual membership meeting to get the full scoop on MO-TELL's year of 2023. The annual meeting is on January 23.

I thank all the board members of MO-TELL for making this year a wonderful success. Our newsletter is the creation of Ken Wolfe who takes my info and turns it into a work of art.

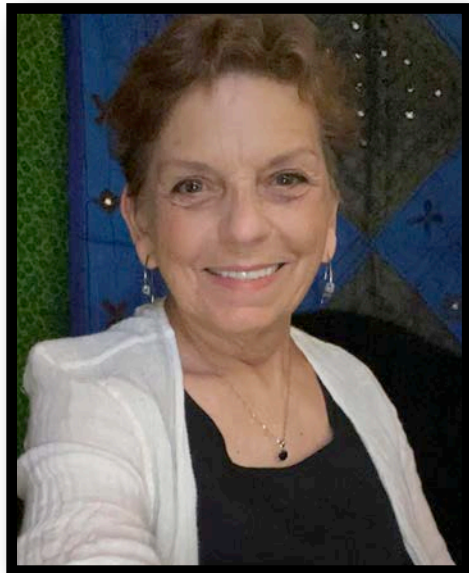
I thank all of you, the members of MO-TELL because you believe in the power of storytelling.

Thank you.

Love to you all and keep telling your stories,

Joyce Slater

President of MO-TELL



“The future belongs to a different kind of person with a different kind of mind: artists, inventors, storytellers—creative and holistic ‘right-brain’ thinkers.”

-Daniel Pink

MAGNET
HERE

FOR YOUR FRIDGE

MAGNET
HERE

STORIES, GATHERINGS, AND STORY GATHERINGS
AROUND OUR FAIR STATE.

RAPS JANUARY 2024

Thursday January 4, 2024, 7:00 pm First Thursday Meeting

Hybrid meetings return to Trailside Center AND on Zoom

Featured Teller: **Jean Groth**

Story Theme: “**Winter ????**”

Friday, January 19, 2024 thru Sunday, January 21, 2024

River and Prairie Storyweavers’ Chicken Festival 2024
Henry County Museum, Clinton, MO

Saturday January 20, 2024, No Third Saturday RAPS Meeting

At Woodneath Story Center (*See you at the Chicken Festival*)

Thursday February 1, 2024, 7:00 pm First Thursday Meeting

Hybrid meeting at Trailside Center AND on Zoom

Workshop: **Using Various Types of Microphones: Jim Wallen**

Story Theme: “**There’s Magic in the Air**”

*Hybrid meetings will be held in-person at:

Trailside Center
99th & Holmes Rd.

Kansas City, MO 64131

Woodneath Library Center

8900 NE Flintlock Road

Kansas City, MO 64157

If not on RAPS Mailing List,

Contact: RAPS.Secretary@gmail.com for additional info and Zoom links.

On Thu, Dec 28, 2023 at 4:10 PM Joyce Slater <joyceslater20@gmail.com> wrote:
Anything for the newsletter for January? Joyce

GATEWAY

JANUARY 2024

**Happy New Year
from Gateway
Storytellers!**

Sue Hinkel's Tips for Telling

SOME BASIC THINGS TO THINK ABOUT WHEN TELLING A STORY MAY NOT BE ABOUT THE STORY ITSELF BUT ABOUT PHYSICAL APPEARANCE AND MORE.

HERE ARE THREE THINGS TO CONSIDER.

1. CLOTHING:

YES, WEAR SOME, THAT IS THE FIRST THING! CHOOSE SOMETHING THAT ISN'T MORE INTERESTING THAN YOUR STORY. FOR EXAMPLE: DON'T WEAR A SWEATER THAT HAS 12 RIBBONS HANGING DOWN THE FRONT WITH A JIGGLE BELL ON THE END OF EACH RIBBON. THE BELLS WILL MAKE A JIGGLING SOUND EVEN IF THE CLAPPER IS TAKEN OUT OF EACH BELL; THE METAL BELLS WILL STILL CLANG AGAINST EACH OTHER AND CAN BE ANNOYING. THAT LESSON WAS LEARNED THE HARD WAY.

2. JEWELRY OR CHANGE IN A POCKET:

JEWELRY, SUCH AS BRACELETS AND NECKLACES CAN BE ANNOYING AND NOISY WHEN THEY CLANG AGAINST EACH OTHER WHILE PERFORMING. COINS IN THE POCKETS WILL DO THE SAME THING. THESE NOISES OFTEN INTERFERE WITH WHAT THE SOUND SYSTEM PICKS UP.

3. PAUSES:

TELL THE STORY WITH SOME APPROPRIATE PAUSES, WHICH WILL GIVE YOUR AUDIENCE A CHANCE TO LAUGH, CATCH UP WITH THE STORY, OR TO REALIZE A POINT IN YOUR STORY.

THESE TIPS ARE SUE'S OWN. SUBSEQUENT MONTHS WILL OFFER TIPS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.
Contact Sue with your tips. Email suehinkel1@gmail.com or Text 314-406-0695

THE STORY BEAST

For Story Artists, Listeners, and Dreamers

Sink your teeth and claws into our monthly publication now



A new free E-Publication the 15th of each month

While you explore, consider submitting stories, articles, poems, and art.



STORYBEAST.ORG/ARCHIVE



HERE'S A WORKSHOP TO NOT MISS!

UNLOCKING THE POWER OF PURPOSEFUL PLAY A JOURNEY INTO STORYTELLING AND CO-CREATION

Stories are like seeds, waiting to sprout, grow, and flourish. Too often, we focus on stories when they are fully formed, neglecting the vibrant potential that exists during their gestation. This intensive program, "Unlocking the Power of Play," is designed for storytellers with unfinished tales, those who wish to explore and nurture the seeds of their narratives. Through the art of play and the support of a storytelling partner, we will embark on a transformative journey to breathe life into your stories like never before. Bring a story idea or a start of a story and we will use play to discover the many directions the stories can travel. Walk out with not only new ideas for the story, but new awareness for the story making process.

This intensive works for beginning story enthusiasts to advanced storytellers. It also appeals to educators, writers, and librarians who want to explore new ways to use stories in their work.

*A variation of this workshop will also be shared at the 2024 National Storytelling Network Conference in Washington State. We invite you to come and see here before the conference.

Kevin Cordi, Assistant Professor in Education at Ohio University Lancaster.

Storytelling teacher
Professional storyteller
National Story/Storytelling Consultant
www.kevincordi.com

"Together we make a difference with stories."

**THIS IS
THE GUY!**



Workshop, In person only
Date: February 6, 2024
Time: 4:30-7:00 pm
Place: Trailside Center, 99th & Holmes, KCMO
Fee: \$10 Space is limited

To secure a space in the workshop, contact Joyce Slater
at joyceslater20@gmail.com or 816-804-2442 by February 1, 2024

Remit your check for \$10 to:

Missouri Storytelling, Inc., 9621 Olive Blvd #28994 • St. Louis, MO 63132-9998

MO-TELL

ANNUAL

MEMBERSHIP

MEETING

TUESDAY

JANUARY 23, 2024

SEVEN O'CLOCK PM

VIA ZOOM

CLICK BELOW TO REGISTER

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMvf-qvqz0iGtPDKL0dDVD9AGiYWvTQVQd1>

DON'T MISS IT!

BE PART OF THE PROCESS & HAVE A STORY TO TELL!

A BIT OF MO-TELL HISTORY

MO-TELL MEMORIES

GARY KUNTZ



I joined MO-TELL back when Larry Brown was President of the group and became a board member at large when Joyce Slater became President. I've been a member of the board ever since. The reason I've remained on the board is that this is a way I could help advance storytelling in the state of Missouri.

I found that I could help with storytelling in Missouri by participating in the Missouri Liars Contest from the beginning, when Anthony Clark started the contest in 2015. I also told stories at three of the state parks as part of the partnership between MO-TELL and the State Parks. I've had the opportunity to tell at Knob Noster State Park, along with my wife Linda, Wakonda State Park, and the Arrow Rock State Historical Site as part of their Children's Craft Fair. In 2023 I helped produce four virtual storytelling programs using the Zoom platform: "Irish Tales" in March, "Crazy Days of Summer" in June, "A New Moon, A New Beginning" in September, and "Helping Hands" in December. In 2024 Nancee Walker-Micham and I are going to produce four more shows for MO-TELL, each on the 2nd Tuesday of the month: "Winds" in March, "Freedom" in June, "Hauntings" in September, and "Tell Me A Story" in December.

I have been very fortunate in having many people encourage, help, teach, and mentor me in storytelling. Encouraging and helping others in storytelling is something I hope I will be able to do in the years to come. There are many memories over the years and one that stands out is when Linda and I, for the first time, encouraged and helped mentor Carol Kariotis who won the Missouri Liars Contest!

Gary Kuntz
5704 N Euclid Ave, Gladstone MO 64118
galirahi@aol.com
816-896-8611

**FROM THE MO-TELL ANNALS OF STORYTELLING
A DATE OF IMPORT**

SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

GARY KUNTZ



**ARROW ROCK STATE HISTORIC SITE
CHILDREN'S ART & CRAFT EVENT**



LOOK WHAT'S A-COMIN' DOWN THE PIKE!

WINTER WINDS STORYFEST, FEBRUARY 24, 2024

MO-TELL LIARS' CONTEST, JULY 20, 2024

DETAILS FORTHCOMING, DONTCHA KNOW...

MO-TELL HISTORY PROJECT INVITES YOU!

YES, YOU!

We are gathering any and all history of Missouri Storytelling, Inc. from the very beginning in the mid 1980s to the present. We, the Board, are asking you to be a part of that history. Send a memory and take a moment to tell about you and MO-TELL!

Send any and all memories in writing to Perrin Stifel, 636 Elmwood Ave., St. Louis, MO 63119. Old-fashioned handwriting is fine. Or send an attachment (Word document) or email to pstifelstl@earthlink.net or call Perrin at 314-413-2858 to set up a verbal interview with him or another board member. Some of us like to write, others like to share verbally. Text is also fine! Please consider the 5 W's--Who, What, When, Where, Why--as you write a memory. That will help us the most. Please send any old photos, programs, tickets, or MO-TELL Register newsletters (printed only). We will compile this history for folks to read and reminisce.

Your current information is very important!

Name, address, phone, email

Here are some questions to jog a memory. The most important thing is to share a memory and have fun with it!

Were you there when MO-TELL began? David Schlamb and I gathered at my home to propose a state-wide organization. Ruthilde Kronberg was there from the start to support the idea of MO-TELL. Lynn Rubright and Annette Harrison mentored many of us. We have the names of all the charter members. There were 35 people included as Charter Members.

Were or are you an officer?

Title – Years

Were or are you on the board? Years

What was your first MO-TELL experience?

Did you attend any Workshop Weekends? Who was featured? Did you tell? They were at Cuivre River State Park and Lake of the Ozarks State Park. Remember Nora Gilman? Jackie Torrence? Richard Renner? Pleasant de Spain? Kevin Locke? Etc., etc.

What Missouri River Storytelling Festivals do you remember? Was it on the Goldenrod Showboat or elsewhere in St. Charles? Do you remember the tent on the shore? Depot?

Most vivid memory ever

Funniest memory ever

An AHA! Memory

Tellabration: What year did you attend? Did you tell? Where? At one of the churches?

Did you ever tell at one of the Missouri State Park Storytelling Series events? Or attend and hear someone tell for the first time?

Above all, we want to hear from you...

Thanks, Perrin and the MO-TELL board.

RAPS



**Chicken
Festival**

River and Prairie Storyweavers

Chicken Festival 2024

Coming Friday, January 19, 2024

Through Sunday, January 21, 2024.

The Chicken Festival will be held at:

Henry County Museum

Clinton, MO.

For more information contact: RAPS.events@gmail.com

[Storycrafting Fundamentals \(Zoom\)](#)

Wed, Jan 10 2024 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Event **Virtual Event**

Writer and storyteller Laura Packer will explore character development, story structure, point of view, understanding your audience, and other story crafting techniques.

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW

[Introduction to Writing Audio Dramas \(Zoom\)](#)

Thu, Jan 11 2024 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Event **Virtual Event**

Fictional indie audio dramas are experiencing a boom! Join Jackie Hedeman, co-creator of the sci-fi podcast The Pasithea Powder, to learn the fundamentals of writing for narrative audio.

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW

[Story Swap \(Hybrid\)](#)

Thu, Jan 18 2024 6:30pm - 8:00pm Story Center Programming Room Story Center
Event Registration Required

This open-mic storytelling event is open to anyone! Put your name in the hat for a chance to share a seven-minute story, or just come to enjoy the show.

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW

[Performance Basics \(Zoom\)](#)

Mon, Jan 22 2024 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Event **Virtual Event**

In this interactive workshop, discover how to unleash your potential and connect with your audience from storyteller George Pettigrew.

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW

[Resources for Storytellers \(Hybrid\)](#)

Mon, Jan 29 2024 6:30pm - 8:00pm Story Center Programming Room Story Center
Event Registration Required

It takes various tools to become a seasoned storyteller or writer, including books, websites, organizations, and more.

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW



ONCE AGAIN FOR THE FOLKS IN BACK..

WE'LL BE MEETING ON ZOOM

JANUARY 23, 7 O'CLOCK.

HERE'S THE REGISTRATION LINK!

CLICK BELOW TO REGISTER & JOIN US.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMvf-qvqz0iGtPDKL0dDVD9AGiYWvTQVQd1>

BY THE WAY, ANYONE INTERESTED

IN JOINING THE BOARD IN ANY CAPACITY

SHOULD CONTACT

JOYCE SLATER, JOYCESLATER20@GMAIL.COM.

YOU CAN RUN FOR A POSITION OR JOIN AT

LARGE. WE ARE OPEN TO NEW MEMBERS.

**NOW THAT YOU'VE FOUND MO-TELL
DON'T LET GO!**



NORMALLY, WE'D SAY "DON'T LOOK DOWN" BUT, IN THIS INSTANCE, THE DETAILS FOR MEMBERSHIP ARE BELOW.

**LOOK DOWN &
JOIN UP!**

THE MO-TELL BILL OF FARE

OFTEN IMITATED, NEVER DUPLICATED

MEMBERSHIP DUES

FISCAL YEAR, FEBRUARY 1-JANUARY 31

RENEW TODAY!

<i>MEMBERSHIP</i>	<i>ANNUAL DUES</i>	<i>COMES WITH</i>
SINGLE MEMBERSHIP 1 YEAR	\$25	MO-TELL PRESTIGE
SINGLE MEMBERSHIP 2 YEARS	\$40	MO-TELL PRESTIGE
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP 1 YEAR	\$35	FAMILY-WIDE MO-TELL PRESTIGE
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP 2 YEARS	\$50	TWICE AS MUCH OF THE SAME!!
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP -60	\$250	LOGO BAG <i>PLUS</i> MEMBER'S CHOICE OF ONE: (CAP) (T-SHIRT) (LOGO MUG)
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP 60+	\$200	LOGO BAG <i>PLUS</i> MEMBER'S CHOICE OF ONE: (CAP) (T-SHIRT) (LOGO MUG)

SEND CHECK PAYABLE TO:

MO-TELL c/o Jackie Wright, PO Box 28994, St. Louis, MO 63132-8994

Olivette Branch Post Office, 9621 Olive Blvd. 63132-9998.



THE BENEFITS YOU RECEIVE FOR YOUR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

1. MISSOURI STATE PARKS STORYTELLING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE
2. MISSOURI LIAR'S CONTEST
3. WEB SITE PRESENCE FOR STORYTELLERS
4. MONTHLY STORYTELLING PROGRAMS
5. LOADS OF MERCH (HATS, CAPS, CLIPS, MUGS, BAGS, AND WHATNOT!)
6. NATIONAL STORYTELLING NETWORK AFFILIATION
7. A WORLD CLASS NEWSLETTER (HUZZAH!)
8. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (AND A VOICE THEREIN!)
9. CONNECTION TO THE OTHER STORYTELLING ORGANIZATIONS IN THE REGION

RENEW TODAY!

Story of the Month

THE FEAST

There was once a chief who decided that he wanted to give a party for his entire kingdom. Everyone was invited. He would provide all the food and entertainment. The only thing he asked was that each family brings a gourd of wine. This would be poured into a huge pot from which all would be served. All the villages were buzzing with excitement. People were deciding what to wear and wondering what dances and stories would be performed. It promised to be a fabulous party.

One farmer was talking with his wife as they were getting ready on the day of the party and said, "Why should we spend good money on a gourd full of wine for the king's party? Isn't this party supposed to be free?"

"But dear," said his wife, "All the king is asking for is one gourd of wine. Is that really asking so much?"

But the stingy farmer, thinking himself very clever replied, "Who will notice one gourd of water in a big pot full of wine?"

So the farmer filled his gourd with water instead of wine. When the people were all gathered waiting for the party to begin, the king called everyone together for a toast.

"Let every cup be filled," he shouted, "That we may drink to the future of our land! May this party be as fine as the wine we are about to drink!"

Everyone raised their cups in a cheer before they drank. The farmer then took a sip of his wine. But when he tasted it, he threw his cup down and shouted, "This is only water!"

All the others had the same complaint. It seems that the farmer was not the only one who had the idea to put water instead of wine into his gourd. They had all done it. So it was that all they had to drink at the party was water. The king was so disappointed, that he ended the party early.



2024 RESOLUTIONS

- I will hit the snooze button on the alarm only 4 times instead of 5.
- I will make my bed once per month.
- I will run every morning – to the refrigerator before breakfast.
- I will become a pro at MO-TELL ZOOM events by mastering the mute/unmute button without embarrassing myself.
- I will set a world record by breaking more New Year's Resolutions than anyone ever.
- I will keep a diary of everything healthy I eat for three days... or at least 2 days.
- I will keep my computer free of coffee drips, crumbs, and try to reduce my emails I don't need or want from 2,000 to 500.
- I will break my New Year's Resolutions by March.
- I will vote early and often in the 2024 presidential election.
- I will not take a nap unless I need one.

Seriously, try one of the following:
I will be kind to someone every day.
I will smile more.
I will be a gentle soul.

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Missouri Storytelling, Inc (MO-TELL) is an organization of storytellers and other interested persons dedicated to spreading the joy and art of storytelling throughout Missouri.

MISSION STATEMENT

We envision that every Missourian will hear and share stories and keep the oral tradition alive.

VISION STATEMENT

President: Joyce Slater, joyceslater20@gmail.com

Vice-President: Sue Hinkel, suehinkel1@gmail.com

Treasurer: Jackie Wright, jpapawright@sbcglobal.net (Membership)

Secretary: Linda Kuntz, iharilag@gmail.com

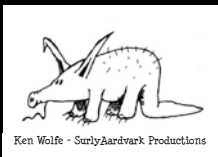
At Large: Gary Kuntz, galirahi@aol.com
Nancee Walker Micham, walkermicham@gmail.com
Glen "Papa" Wright, jpapawright@sbcglobal.net

Emeritus: Perrin Stifel, pstifelstl@earthlink.net

www.mo-tell.org

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Our mailing address: 7338 Belleview Ave, Kansas City, MO 64114



THE MO-TELL BOARD